

WALL ST. STOCK REPORTS.

Prices of Shares Hammered Down All Along the List.

Predictions of a Speedy Renewal of Gold Exportations.

The Bears Had Things Their Own Way from Opening to Close.

WALL STREET, WEDNESDAY, Feb. 17.—As the early cables from London came decidedly lower than the closing quotations of Tuesday, the bears hammered the general list with some effect.

Prices declined 1/4 to 1 1/2 per cent. Chicago gas leading the downward movement. A considerable short interest was engendered and later, when an attempt was made to cover, a number of losses were realized.

Western Union, Lake Erie & Western, New England, Tennessee Coal & Iron and Chesapeake & Ohio advanced from 1 to 1 1/2 per cent, and other stocks to a lesser extent.

After midday the coals once more developed weakness, and there was a heavy pressure against Reading and Lackawanna, owing to increasing public hostility towards the proposed coal exportation bill.

Taken altogether speculation was far less active than of late, and up to noon only a little over 200,000 shares had changed hands.

There was quite a stir in Wheeling & Lake Erie on the official announcement that arrangements had been made with the Baltimore & Ohio and Pennsylvania for an interchange of business.

The bears are still predicting an efflux of gold. Exchange is certainly strong and demand for gold is high, but this figure is at least one-half below the shipping point.

Commercial bills are in fair supply. Higher rates for discounts in London have a tendency to stiffen sight sterling.

It is said that the Richmond Terminal plan of reorganization will not be given for a week yet.

The January statement of the Chicago Gas companies shows net earnings of \$203,102, against \$215,007 last year. The net income after payment of interest on bonds, amount paid to the city, and all charges except dividends is \$44,000.

The stock market continued depressed during the afternoon, a story having been circulated that a rumor amounting to \$1,000,000 of gold was being shipped to London.

The Treasury department today purchased 500,000 ounces of silver at 91.50 and 91.75. The offerings were 734,000 ounces.

The total sales of the stock exchange today were 115,200 shares of listed stocks and 142,000 ounces of silver.

The Quotations.

N. Y. & New England	5114	5098	5104	61
Adams Express	116	114	115	61
American Sugar Ref.	84	82	83	61
American Cotton Oil	84	82	83	61
Am. Tobacco Co.	104	102	103	61
Am. Tea & Coffee	104	102	103	61
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